

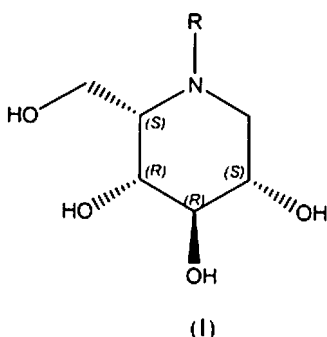
AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I) in free or pharmaceutically acceptable salt ~~or C₁₋₄alkyl ester prodrug~~ form:



wherein

R is -C₁₋₃alkylAr¹ where Ar¹ is phenyl;

wherein phenyl is substituted by one or more substituents selected from CN, CON(R¹)₂, SO_nR², SO₂N(R¹)₂, N(R⁵)₂, N(R¹)COR₂, N(R¹)SO_nR², C₀₋₆alkylAr², C₂₋₆alkenylAr² and C₃₋₆alkynylAr²

wherein one or more of the -CH₂- groups of the alkyl chain may be replaced with a heteroatom selected from O, S and NR³, provided that when the heteroatom is O, at least two -CH₂- groups separate it from any additional O atom in the alkyl chain; or two adjacent substituents on the Ar¹ phenyl may together form a fused 5- or 6-membered saturated or unsaturated ring wherein the ring optionally contains 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from O, S and NR⁴ and is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from, an oxo group, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₀₋₃alkylAr⁴;

and the Ar¹ phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more additional substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CF₃, OCF₃, OR³ and C₁₋₆alkyl;

R¹ is H, C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted by OH, Ar³, or C₁₋₆alkylAr³, or the group N(R¹)₂ may form a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group optionally containing one or more additional

heteroatoms selected from O, S and NR^3 and is optionally substituted by an oxo group;

R^2 is C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted by OH, Ar^3 , or C_{1-6} alkyl Ar^3 ;

R^3 is H, or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^4 is H, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{0-3} alkyl Ar^4 ;

R^5 is H, C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted by OH, Ar^3 , or C_{1-6} alkyl Ar^3 , or the group $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$ may form a 5- to 10-membered heterocyclic group optionally containing one or more additional heteroatoms selected from O, S and NR^3 and is optionally substituted by an oxo group;

Ar^2 and Ar^3 are independently phenyl or a 5- to 10-membered heteroaryl group containing up to 3 heteroatoms selected from O, S and NR^3 , which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CN, CF_3 , OCF_3 , OR^3 and C_{1-6} alkyl;

Ar^4 is phenyl or pyridyl either of which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CN, CF_3 , OCF_3 , OR^3 and C_{1-6} alkyl; and

$n = 0, 1$ or 2 .

2. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1 wherein R is C_1 alkyl Ar^1 .

3. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1, wherein Ar^1 is phenyl, wherein phenyl is substituted as defined in claim 1.

4. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1, wherein Ar^1 is phenyl, wherein phenyl is substituted by one or more substituents selected from CN, $\text{CON}(\text{R}^1)_2$, $\text{N}(\text{R}^5)_2$ and C_{0-6} alkyl Ar^2 wherein one or more of the $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups of the alkyl chain may be replaced with a heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^3 , provided that when the heteroatom is O, at least two $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups separate it from any additional O atom in the alkyl chain, or two adjacent substituents on the Ar^1 phenyl may together form a fused 5- or 6-membered saturated or unsaturated ring wherein the ring optionally contains 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from O and NR^4 and is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from, an oxo group, C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{0-3} alkyl Ar^4 , and the Ar^1 phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more additional substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CF_3 , OCF_3 , OR^3 and C_{1-6} alkyl.

5. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1, wherein Ar¹ is phenyl, wherein phenyl is substituted by one or more substituents selected from CN, CON(R¹)₂, N(R⁵)₂ and C₀₋₆alkylAr² wherein one or more of the -CH₂- groups of the alkyl chain may be replaced with O, provided that at least two- CH₂- groups separate it from any additional O atom introduced into the alkyl chain and the Ar¹ phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more additional substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CF₃, OCF₃, OR³ and C₁₋₆alkyl.

6. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1, wherein Ar² is phenyl which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CN, CF₃, OCF₃, OR³ and C₁₋₆alkyl.

7. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1, wherein R¹ is H, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkylAr³.

8. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1, wherein R² is Ar³ or C₁₋₆alkylAr³.

9. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1, wherein Ar³ is phenyl which may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from F, Cl, Br, CN, CF₃, OCF₃, OR³ and C₁₋₆alkyl.

10. (Previously presented) The compound as defined in claim 1, wherein R⁵ is C₁₋₆alkyl.

11. (Currently amended) A compound selected from

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1 [[2-methoxy-4-(phenylmethoxy)phenyl]methyl],
(2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[[2-chloro-4-(dimethylamino)phenyl]methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-,

(2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[(3-cyano-4-dimethylamino-2-fluorophenyl)methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[(4-acetylamino)phenyl)methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl), (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[(2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-yl)methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

Benzamide, N-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-4-[[2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidinyl)methyl]-;

Benzamide, N-[1-phenylethyl]-4-[[2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidinyl]-methyl]-;

Benzamide, N-[1-(R)-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-[[2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidinyl)methyl]-;

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[[3-(phenylmethoxy)phenyl)methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[[3-chloro-4-(phenylmethoxy)phenyl)methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[[4-(phenylmethoxy)phenyl)methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[[4-dibutylamino)phenyl)methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[(4-*trans*-styryl)phenyl)methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

Quinoline, 1-[4-[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidinyl]methyl]-benzoyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-;

Benzamide, N-[phenylmethyl]-4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidinyl]-methyl]-;

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-(quinolin-6-yl)methyl-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[(3-cyano-4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[(3-cyano-4-(diethylamino)-2-fluorophenyl)-methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[(4-phenoxyphenyl)methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[(3,4-ethylenedioxyphenyl)methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

Benzamide, N-[4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidinyl]-methyl]phenyl]-;

Benzenesulfonamide, N-[4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidinyl]methyl]-phenyl]-;

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[[4-(2-pyridyl)phenyl]methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[(2-phenyl-2*H*-1,4-benzoxazin-3(4*H*)-one-6-

yl)methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[[3,5-dimethyl-4-(phenylmethoxy)phenyl]methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 1-[[3-cyano-4-[N-butyl-4-*N*-(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]phenyl]methyl]-2-(hydroxymethyl)-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

Phenylacetamide, N-[4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidiny]methyl]phenyl]-;

3,4,5-Pipetidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[(2-hexyl-2*H*-1,4-benzoxazin-3(4H)-one-6-yl)methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

Benzenesulfonamide, N-[1-(S)-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidiny]methyl]-;

[2-(S)-phenyl]propionamide, N-[4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidiny]methyl]phenyl]-;

3,4,5-Piperidinetriol, 2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-[[2-propyl-2*H*-1,4-benzoxazin-3(4H)-one-6-yl)methyl]-, (2S,3R,4R,5S);

[2-(R)-phenyl]propionamide, N-[4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidiny]methyl]phenyl]-;

Benzamide, N-[1-(S)-phenylethyl]-4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidiny]methyl]-;

Benzamide, N-[1-(R)-phenylethyl]-4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidiny]methyl]-;

Benzamide, N-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-N-methyl-4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidiny]methyl]-;

Benzamide, N-hexyl-4-[[[(2S,3R,4R,5S)-3,4,5-trihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)-1-piperidiny]methyl]-;

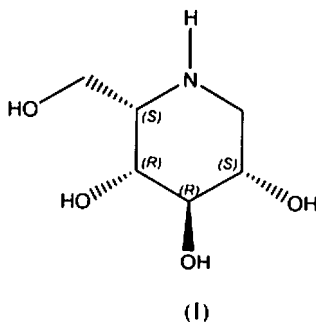
in free[.,] or pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ~~C₁₋₄alkyl ester prodrug~~ form.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients and/or diluents.

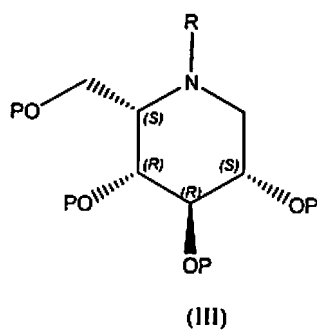
14. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, the process comprising:

a) reductive amination of an aldehyde of formula $R^5\text{CHO}$ wherein R^5 is $\text{C}_{0-2}\text{alkylAr}^1$ where Ar^1 is as defined in claim 1, with a compound of formula (II):



or

b) deprotection of a compound of formula (III):



wherein R is as defined in claim 1, and P, which may be the same or different, are hydroxy protecting groups.

15-30. (Cancelled)